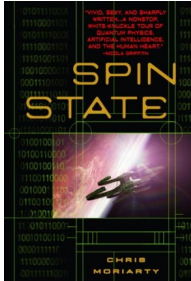




Lambda Sci-Fi

DC Area Gaylaxians



Spin State
By Chris Moriarty
Discussed January 2004

Discussion Questions

1. Did you enjoy *Spin State*? Why, or why not?
2. *Spin State* makes use of a lot of "techno jargon" - especially in the early stages of the book. How did the use of this jargon affect your reading? Was the book *too* technical?
3. Action takes place in both the real world and in a complex and "realistic" virtual world. What did you think of Moriarty's "virtual world"? Were the lines between real and virtual clear? How did that affect your reading?
4. *Spin State* is most definitely *science* fiction, with significant focus on advances in science and technology. Did Moriarty successfully explore the social implications of these scientific advances?
5. Cohen, the primary AI we encounter in *Spin State*, wields a vast amount of power and is, at times, almost omnipotent. How well did Moriarty handle having a character with such vast power? Did "his" omnipotence affect your enjoyment of the story?
6. One of the cultures we encounter is "post-human". Did Moriarty successfully provide a vision of these "post-humans" having a different psychology/way of thinking about the universe? Were they just "aliens who think and act like us" or were they truly alien?
7. The action in *Spin State* cycles around key "movers and shakers" in Moriarty's universe. Did we get enough of a glimpse of the plight of the "common person" to form a picture of the culture as a whole?
8. Racial differences seem to have disappeared - humans all seem to be of the same completely mixed stock in *Spin State*. Have human prejudices disappeared with the concept of race? How about class strata?
9. Is sexuality an "issue" in the universe of *Spin State*? Gender?